

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 18, as follows:

Fig. 15 is a ~~transverse sectional~~ bottom view which shows grooves formed in a side wall of an ~~inner wall of an inner~~ outer cover of the cover assembly of Fig. 14;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 8, as follows:

The gas sensor 1 generally includes a gas sensor element 15, a first insulation porcelain 12, a second insulation porcelain 13, a hollow cylindrical housing 10, an air cover 11, and a protective cover assembly 2. The gas sensor element 15 is made of a laminated plate made up of a base portion and a sensing portion exposed directly to a gas to be measured. For example, U.S.P. No. 5,573,650, issued on November 12, 1996 to Fukaya et al. teaches a typical laminated sensor element, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. The gas sensor element 15 is retained within the housing 10 and has a given length extending in a longitudinal center line of the gas sensor 1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 25, as follows:

The outer cover 21 of the cover assembly 2 has formed thereon, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, a shoulder 211 ~~tapering-off to~~ toward the bottom of the cover assembly 2 (i.e., a lower portion, as viewed in the drawing). The inner cover 22 has a tapered wall 222 which extends inward and downward from a portion thereof closer to the base of the cover assembly 2 than the shoulder 211 of the outer cover 21. The inner cover 22 has the gas inlet holes 220 formed in the tapered wall 222.

Please amend the paragraphs appearing at page 21, lines 4-17, as follows:

The outer cover 21 has, like the first embodiment, the shoulder 211 extending upward and outward. The inner cover 22 has, like the fourth embodiment of Fig., 8, the

tapered wall 222 extending from the flange 29 in which tapered wall 222 the inlet holes 220 are formed and oriented downward to the inlet holes 210 of the outer cover 21.

The outer cover 21 has formed beneath the shoulder 211 six oval inlet holes 210 elongated in the longitudinal direction of the cover assembly 2. The oval inlet holes 210 are arranged at regular intervals around the periphery of the inner cover 22. Between adjacent two of the oval inlet holes 210, a V-shaped groove 215 is, as clearly shown in Fig. 15, formed in an outer wall of the ~~inner~~ outer cover-22 21 which ~~bulges~~ projects inward. Other arrangements are identical with those in first embodiment, and explanation thereof in detail will be omitted here.